

REMARKS

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 9-13, 15-26, and 64-65 were pending at the time the Action was mailed. Herein, claims 10-12, 15-17 and 19 are amended and claims 9, 13-14, 18 and 64 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the amendments can be found generally throughout the specification, such as in the originally-filed claims. *See, e.g.*, cancelled claim 9. Claims 21-26 and 65 were previously withdrawn. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, claims 10-12, 15-17, 19-26, and 65 are the subject of this response.

B. The Rejection of Claims 9-13, 15-16, 18-20, and 64 Is Moot

Claims 9-13, 15-16, 18-20, and 64 stand rejected under the first paragraph of § 112 as lacking an adequate written description. In view of the cancellation of claims 9, 13, 18, and 64 without prejudice or disclaimer, the only claims at issue in this rejection include claims 10-12, 15-16, and 19-20. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims.

Applicants note that claim 17 is free from the written description rejection. The Action objected to claim 17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would otherwise be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Action at page 12. Applicants have rewritten claim 17 as an independent claim by incorporating all of the limitations of claim 9, the base claim. Claims 10-12, 15-16, and 19 have been amended to depend from claim 17. Claim 20 depends from claim 19. Therefore, the rejection of claims 10-12, 15-16, and 19-20 is moot.

By making these amendments, however, Applicants do not concede that the claims prior to amendment were not patentable. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the previously rejected claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the written description rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

C. The Rejection of Claims 9-13, 15-16, 18-20, and 64 Is Moot

Claims 9-13, 15-16, 18-20, and 64 were rejected under the first paragraph of § 112 as lacking an enabling disclosure. In view of the cancellation of claims 9, 13, 18, and 64 without prejudice or disclaimer, the only claims at issue in this rejection include claims 10-12, 15-16, and 19-20. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims.

Applicants note that claim 17 is free from the enablement rejection. As discussed above, claim 17 is otherwise allowable if rewritten into independent form. Applicants have so amended claim 17, as described above and have changed the dependencies of the remaining claims as discussed above. As such, Applicants believe the enablement rejection is now moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

D. The Objection to Claim 13 Is Moot

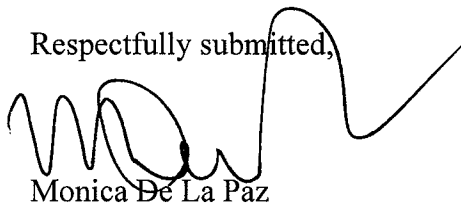
The Action objected to claim 13 as being of improper dependent form. Applicants note that claim 13 has been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. As such, the objection is moot.

E. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, and an early indication to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned at (512) 536-5639 with any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monica De La Paz', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

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